

JAN 23 2008

Application No.: 10/687340

Case No.: 58981US002

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-16, and 19-29 are pending in this application. Claim 19 is currently amended. Claims 17-18 and 25-29 have been cancelled.

Examiner Interview

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for granting a telephonic interview on January 16, 2008. In the interview, Applicants pointed out that the Examiner appeared to be equating the amphoteric polymers and anionic surfactants of Jeschke et al. (U.S. Patent no. 4,784,789) with the Applicants' surfactant component. There was agreement that the amphoteric polymers and anionic surfactants of Jeschke could not be equated properly to the nonionic surfactant component of the Applicant's invention. The Examiner indicated that he would reconsider the rejection of claims 1 and 15 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 4,784,789 (Jeschke) in view of US Patent No. 6,313,182 (Lassila). Applicants thank the Examiner for the reminder to correct claim 19, which is rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph.

§ 112 Rejection

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 19 has been amended to depend properly from claim 15. Applicant submits that the rejection of claim 19 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, has been overcome, and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 1-4, 7-16, and 19-24 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 4,784,789 (Jeschke) in view of US Patent No. 6,313,182 (Lassila). Claim 1 of the instantaneous application includes, "a nonionic surfactant component from about 0.2% to 0.6%" and claim 15 includes, "a dried coating comprising a surfactant component and a stabilizer component in a ratio of 0.2:1 to 12:1 wt/wt ... wherein the surfactant component is a nonionic surfactant". As stated above, the amphoteric polymers and anionic surfactants of Jeschke cannot

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be equated to the nonionic surfactants of the Applicants' invention. Thus, the combination of Jeschke with Lassila does not include each and every element of claims 1 and 15. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 15 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 4,784,789 (Jeschke) in view of US Patent No. 6,313,182 (Lassila).

Claims 2-4 and 7-14 each add additional features to claim 1 and claims 16 and 19-24 each add additional features to claim 15. Claims 1 and 15 are patentable for at least the reasons given above. Thus, claims 2-4, 7-14, 16, and 19-24 are likewise patentable.

In summary, the rejection of claims 1-4, 7-16, and 19-24 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 4,784,789 (Jeschke) in view of US Patent No. 6,313,182 (Lassila) has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Examination and reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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